

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2379

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2000

UNTREATED SEWAGE INTO YAMUNA RIVER

NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY;RAMDAS ATHAWALE;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned '1393m litres of sewage is flushed into Yamuna daily' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated September 18, 2000;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to direct the Government of Delhi to check free flow of sewage into Yamuna;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry and UNDP have found Delhi and Kanpur as the most polluted cities in the country; and

(e) if so, the concrete steps taken by the Government to tackle the pollution problems in these cities?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) Yes, Sir. According to a joint inspection report of the Central Pollution Control Board of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation of the Ministry of Urban Development conducted in October, 2000, about 1300 million litres of untreated sewage is discharged in the river Yamuna everyday.

(b) & (c) A scheme of pollution abatement of Yamuna which is known as the Yamuna Action Plan was approved by the Government in April 1993. The present approved cost of the Action Plan is Rs.509.54 crore. Under this Plan, works have been taken up in 21 towns out of which 8 towns are in Uttar Pradesh and 12 towns in Haryana besides Delhi. The Plan includes such works as interception & diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, low cost toilets, crematoria and river front development. So far, an expenditure of Rs.446.04 crore has been incurred on this Plan. The Delhi component of Yamuna Action Plan is small comprising 2 sewage treatment plants each of 10 million liters per day capacity and one electric crematorium. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is implementing the major part of pollution abatement programme of Yamuna out of their own plan funds. Under this programme, 14 additional sewage treatment plants along with allied works are to be constructed. Out of these, 9 treatment plants have already been completed and another 5 will be completed by March 2003. In addition, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is also to construct 15 common effluent treatment plants to treat industrial effluents from 21 industrial estates of Delhi. This Project is under implementation and will be completed by December, 2002.

(d) & (e) Government of India has initiated an Urban Services Environment Rating System project with the assistance of United Nations Development Programme being executed by the Tata Energy Research Institute. The objective of the project is to develop and implement an assessment framework which would evaluate the performance of municipal bodies in Delhi and Kanpur on quality of service, sustainability and related criteria to foster transparency and accountability in their functioning. The programme will develop a comprehensive, transparent and participation rating methodology for evaluation of the waste management and water supply services. The Project was launched on 1.10.1999 and will be completed on 30.9.2001.